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Mr. Ruppert

**DECISION**



**THE COMPTROLLER GENERAL  
OF THE UNITED STATES**  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20548

*[Protest Alleging IFB Favors Incumbent Contractor]*

FILE: B-201686, B-201828

DATE: February 3, 1981

MATTER OF: Tenavision, Inc.

**DIGEST:**

Protests based on contention that Government should set forth maximum specified age for used equipment proposed, which would result in Government exceeding its minimum requirements, are summarily denied.

Tenavision, Inc. (TI), protests any award of a contract for the rental and maintenance of washers and dryers at Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri, under invitation for bids (IFB) No. DABT31-81-B-0013 and at Fort Bragg, North Carolina, under IFB No. DAKF40-81-B-0016.

TI contends that the IFB's favor the incumbent contractor by permitting the furnishing of used washers and dryers that are in good working order without setting a maximum age limit on the equipment a bidder may furnish. TI contends that this procedure is restrictive in that it affords the present contractors a lifetime contract with the Government, renewable every year.

TI made a similar argument in its protest which we considered in our decision in Tenavision, Inc., B-199485, July 28, 1980, 80-2 CPD 76. In that case, we disagreed with TI's argument that specifications which allow the furnishing of used equipment without any age limitation are unduly restrictive of competition. We stated that specifications are only supposed to prescribe the minimum standards to which articles required by the Government shall conform.

For the reasons stated in the above-cited case, we disagree with TI's argument that the Government should set forth a maximum specified age for equipment which bidders may propose since the record

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indicates that the agency has determined that no age limitation is required so long as the equipment is in good working order.

Accordingly, the protests are summarily denied.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Milton J. Aorlan".

For The Comptroller General  
of the United States